

Application No. 09/980,770
Amendment dated October 25, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 7, 2005

REMARKS

In order to expedite prosecution Applicants have cancelled claims 41 – 47 and 52 – 55, without prejudice. This action is merely being taken to expedite allowance of the allowed subject matter. Applicants in no way make any admission with regard to the patentability of the cancelled claims. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuation application or take whatever steps are necessary to cover the subject matter set forth in the cancelled claims.

Claims 1 – 47 and 52 stand rejected under 102(b) as being anticipated by Hutson. Claims 52 – 55 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hutson.

As noted above, while Applicants respectfully disagree, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have cancelled the rejected claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection should now be withdrawn, and the claims that the Examiner has indicated are allowable, i.e., claims 48 – 51 and 56 -59, be allowed to issue.

In view of the above and foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the claims now on file are believed to be in condition for allowance, and prompt and favorable action is earnestly solicited. Should there be any question concerning this response or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0850.

Date: 10/26/05

Customer No.: 50828

Respectfully submitted,



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